

Gwyn Besner
3651 Bunker Hill, Suite 328
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November 9, 2011

Honorable Members of the House of Representatives Committee of Regulatory Reform and Visitors,

We wish to truly express our gratitude for bringing House Bill 4766 before your committee.

The work to achieve professionalism and ensure the public is served by auctioneers of integrity began approximately fifty-three years ago. Most states require a license of all auctioneers. We did not get Article twenty-nine of the occupational code signed into law until four years ago. Once the Board of Auctioneers was formed and we attempted to promulgate the rules to accompany the code we discovered there were some flaws with the law. We spent three years working to get Senate Bill 1312 of 2009 to become a law, only to have it fade away at the change of legislative sessions, December 4, 2010.

This bill will accomplish several purposes.

- First and very importantly, it changes the language to gender-neutral.
- It requires that Registered Auctioneers submit a full accounting of all monies at closing or termination of the sale thereby providing the ultimate in protection for the public (your constituents.)
- It differentiates between presale expense monies and sale proceeds. Once we have accomplished this, more auctioneers will register.
- And very importantly, it begins the first steps leading to reciprocity. At present, any auctioneer from any state can come into Michigan and sell at auction. Michigan auctioneers do not have the same privilege.
- By making continuing education mandatory for Registered Auctioneers, it will enable us to practice our occupation in other licensed states.

Thank you so much for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Gwyn Besner, Chairman Board of Auctioneers, State of Michigan
Legislative Chair of the Board of Directors, Michigan State Auctioneers Association.
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